



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, June 2006

Closure Report for the Southern California Edison, San Bernardino Generating Station



We invite you to review and comment on a report describing the closure of a hazardous waste storage retention basin at the Southern California Edison (Edison), San Bernardino Generating Station. It is located at 2492 (formerly 25770) San Bernardino Avenue in the City of Redlands (formerly City of San Bernardino). The generating station was built in 1952. Edison sold the generating station in 1998 and repurchased the site in 2004. It retains responsibility under the contract of sale for environmental liability associated with the facility's past operation of the retention basin.

The report, called a Closure Demonstration Report, describes the investigation of potential hazardous waste contamination at the retention basin, removal of the retention basin, and an analysis of the environmental impact. The report was prepared in response to a settlement between Edison and our department that affected nine generating stations, including San Bernardino. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) regulates the creation, storage, treatment, and removal of hazardous waste in California.

The retention basin was used to store some wastewater that may have contained small amounts of oil, grease, and suspended solids. The wastewater was steadily discharged to the Santa Ana River under the provisions of a National Pollutants Discharge Elimination System permit issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The retention basin may also have been used to temporarily store acidic cleaning solution from the removal of corrosion and mineral deposits from the boiler tubes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD **June 8, 2006 to July 7, 2006**

A 30-day public comment period will be held to comment on the Closure Demonstration Report for the San Bernardino Generating Station facility. We invite you to submit your comments during this time. DTSC will consider your comments before a final decision is made and only after all the issues have been considered.

Para información en español por favor contacte a Leticia Hernández por teléfono al (714) 484-5488.



In 1995, our Department filed a complaint against Edison for treating and storing hazardous waste in its retention basins without a permit, and for failing to identify the hazardous chemicals in the waste. The complaint stated that the hazardous waste water contained chemicals called volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and metals such as nickel and arsenic.

Investigation of the soil, soil gas and groundwater beneath the basin

In 1996, Edison started the investigation of the soil and groundwater beneath the basin. A soil vapor survey and soil sampling program were used for soil investigation. Neither the soil sampling nor the soil gas survey detected any volatile organic compounds. The soil sampling indicated that metal concentrations higher than background were present in a four-inch layer of red sandy clay, which was located immediately below the bottom of the basin. Geological data indicated the clay was apparently imported for use in constructing the basin liner. DTSC therefore requested that Edison initiate the groundwater detection monitoring program in 2001.

Chromium VI was detected in all groundwater samples, at levels below the drinking water standard. The highest concentration of chromium VI was detected at a groundwater monitoring well in the first monitoring quarter taken in September 2001 and at a background well for three other events; December 2001, March 2002 and June 2002. A small amount of trichloroethene (TCE) was detected in each of four groundwater samples collected at the initial sampling event only. The following sampling events did not detect any TCE. Based on the soil and soil gas results and published information, Edison concluded that the chromium VI and TCE came from off-site sources and not the retention basin.

Based on the soil investigation data, the basin and red clay layer that was apparently imported for use in constructing the basin liner were excavated. The confirmation

samples show there are no constituents of concern remaining in the soil. Clean materials were used to backfill the excavated area. The report proposes no further action at the retention basin. As a result, Edison is submitting a Closure Demonstration Report requesting DTSC acknowledges the clean closure of the retention basin.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review

Our agency did a study to find out whether the closure of the retention basin would harm the environment. This study is required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on this finding, DTSC has determined that the closure of the retention basin will not have any significant adverse impact on the environment. The finding is described in a document called a Notice of Exemption.

Where to find Site related documents

Copies of the Closure Demonstration Report, Notice of Exemption, and other documents related to the site are available for your review at the following locations:

A.K. Smiley Public Library
125 W. Vine Street
Redlands, CA 92373
Telephone: (909) 798-7565

Library Hours:
Monday & Tuesday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesday & Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Department of Toxic Substances Control
1011 Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Please contact Ms. Jone Barrio at (818) 551-2886 to make an appointment.

How to submit comments

Written comments on the Closure Demonstration Report must be post-marked or e-mail no later than July 7, 2006 and sent to Ms. Chia-Rin Yen, Project Manager at 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201 or by email to: cyen@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information

If you have questions regarding the site, please contact either of these people at our agency:

Ms. Chia-Rin Yen, Project Manager at (818) 551-2182 or cyen@dtsc.ca.gov

Leticia Hernandez, Public Participation Specialist, at (714) 484-5488 or lhernand@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about DTSC, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov

Media Inquiries

For media questions, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 551-2176 or email [jgarcia1 @dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov)

Notice to hearing impaired individuals

You can get information by using the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask to speak to Leticia Hernandez, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5488.

Southern California Edison, Generating Station Redlands, California

- *send us your comments*
- *be added to or taken off the mailing list*

Our mailings are used only for the keeping you informed of our activities. We don't routinely release our mailing lists to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.



Department of Toxic Substances Control
1011 North Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 90630

INSIDE: Report Describing the Closure of a Hazardous Waste Storage Retention Basin